

Senate File 393 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 393
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1207)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating the invasive forest pests revolving loan
2 program and fund and including appropriations.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

PART 10

INVASIVE FOREST PESTS REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 16.222 Invasive forest pests revolving loan program — fund.

1. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "Department" means the department of natural resources.

b. "Political subdivision" means a city, county, township, or school district.

c. "Treatment" means the administration, by environmentally sensitive processes and methods, of products and materials proven by academic research to protect trees from invasive forest pests in order to prevent or reverse damage to trees from invasive forest pests on public land in political subdivisions and prevent the death of the trees.

2. The authority, in cooperation with the department, shall establish and administer an invasive forest pests revolving loan program. Assistance under the program shall consist of low-interest or no-interest loans and shall be used for the purpose of treatment of standing trees, development of invasive forest pests forestry management plans, and assistance in efforts to manage invasive forest pests for trees located on public land in political subdivisions.

3. A political subdivision may apply for assistance under the program. The authority, in cooperation with the department, shall adopt rules to administer the program, including procedures for prioritizing applications from political subdivisions that apply for the loans.

4. An invasive forest pests revolving loan fund is created in the state treasury under the control of the authority, in cooperation with the department, and consisting of moneys appropriated by the general assembly and any other moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the authority or the department for placement in the fund.

5. Repayment of moneys loaned and recaptures of loans shall

1 be deposited in the fund.

2 6. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the authority, in
3 cooperation with the department, to provide assistance under
4 the invasive forest pests revolving loan program established in
5 this section.

6 7. Not more than three percent of the moneys in the invasive
7 forest pests revolving loan fund in a fiscal year may be used
8 by the authority and the department to establish and administer
9 the invasive forest pests revolving loan program.

10 8. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys in the fund
11 that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close of a
12 fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available for
13 expenditure for the purposes designated until the close of
14 the succeeding fiscal year. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,
15 interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall be credited
16 to the fund.

17 Sec. 2. INVASIVE FOREST PESTS REVOLVING LOAN FUND —
18 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general fund
19 of the state to the invasive forest pests revolving loan fund
20 established in section 16.222, as enacted in this Act, for the
21 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016,
22 the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be
23 used for the establishment and administration of the invasive
24 forest pests revolving loan program established pursuant to
25 this Act:

26 \$ 3,000,000

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill creates the invasive forest pests revolving loan
31 program and fund and appropriates moneys to the fund.

32 The bill requires the Iowa finance authority (authority),
33 in cooperation with the department of natural resources
34 (department), to establish and administer an invasive forest
35 pests revolving loan program to provide low-interest or

1 no-interest loans to political subdivisions to be used for the
2 purpose of treatment of standing trees, developing invasive
3 forest pests forestry management plans, and assistance in
4 efforts to manage invasive forest pests for trees located
5 on public land in political subdivisions. For purposes
6 of the program, "treatment" means the administration, by
7 environmentally sensitive processes and methods, of products
8 and materials proven by academic research to protect trees from
9 invasive forest pests in order to prevent or reverse damage to
10 trees from invasive forest pests on public land in political
11 subdivisions and prevent the death of the trees.

12 A political subdivision may apply for assistance under the
13 program. The authority, in cooperation with the department, is
14 directed to adopt rules to administer the program, including
15 procedures for prioritizing applications for the loans.

16 The bill also creates an invasive forest pests revolving
17 loan fund in the state treasury under the control of the
18 authority, in cooperation with the department. The fund
19 consists of moneys appropriated by the general assembly as
20 well as any other moneys available to and obtained or accepted
21 by the authority or department for placement in the fund.
22 Repayment of moneys loaned and recaptures of loans are to be
23 deposited in the fund. Not more than 3 percent of the moneys
24 in the fund in a fiscal year may be used by the authority and
25 the department to establish and administer the invasive forest
26 pests revolving loan program. Moneys appropriated to the fund
27 that are unencumbered or unobligated at the close of the fiscal
28 year remain in the fund for the designated purposes until the
29 close of the succeeding fiscal year and interest or earnings on
30 moneys in the fund are credited to the fund.

31 The bill also contains an appropriation of \$3 million from
32 the general fund to the invasive forest pests revolving loan
33 fund for FY 2015-2016 to establish and administer the invasive
34 forest pests revolving loan program.